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The Library would like to thank Frank J. Novak for his recent donation of numismatic material. It is gifts like this that helps your Library grow.

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INDIA, Punchmarked Silver Coins

Early Indian coins were struck with different punches not with dies. It is believed that punched marked coins began around 650 BC in Punjab region at a time when city-states were beginning to be organized out of post-Indus anarchy. The very first ones may have been made by "private" banking houses. Around 500 BC a struggle for supremacy began amongst the city-states, Magadha eventually becoming dominant and eliminating the others. Before the Greek invasion, a large expansion of the Magadha realm transformed that kingdom into the Mauryan empire which, at its height, covered all of northern and central India and the eastern half of Pakistan

MONEY of the BIBLE

There are many references to coins in the bible. Since the Old Testament starts with Genesis and the New Testament ends shortly after the death of Jesus, almost all of the coins heretofore mentioned qualify as "Biblical" coins as they circulated in the eastern Mediterranean area.

"Biblical Times" can be extended to about the 4th century. This would include Paul's travels, the early persecution of the Christians, and the final acceptance of Christianity as the official religion of the empire by Constantine in 313 A.D.

Specific references are in terms such as "shekels, half a shekel, talents, pieces of silver, penny, pence, mites, and farthings." There are frequent references to the coins being of "gold or silver." No coin is definitively described in the bible. Exhaustive research allows us to take certain liberties and assume that the Shekel of Tyre is the most likely candidate for inclusion among the "30 pieces of silver". The "widow's mite" was probably a bronze lepton of Jannaeus, The "tribute penny" is thought of as being a denarius of Tiberius.

. The earliest mention of coins in the bible is found in Ezra 2:68-69, where it is related that the first of the Israelites to return from the Babylonian Captivity contributed 1060 drams to the House of the Lord. These gold drams were the Persian darics first struck by Cyrus after his capture of Lydia. Cyrus captured Babylon in 538 B.C. and liberated the captive Israelites who, 50 years earlier, had been taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar who also destroyed their temple in Jerusalem. The Israelites upon their return to Judea, brought with them these darics and sigloi. It is believed that most references to money in the Old Testament are to these darics and sigloi. Thus, these Persian Empire coins were the first used by the Judeans, followed by the Athenian issues, Alexander the Great tetradrachms and staters, Phoenician, Syrian, Parthian, etc. Finally the Israelites struck their own coins under the Maccabean Dynasty

THE USE OF BANK NOTES AS AN INSTRUMENT OF PROPAGANDA - PART III

John E. Sandrock

Allied Anti-Japanese Propaganda Dropped in the Far East

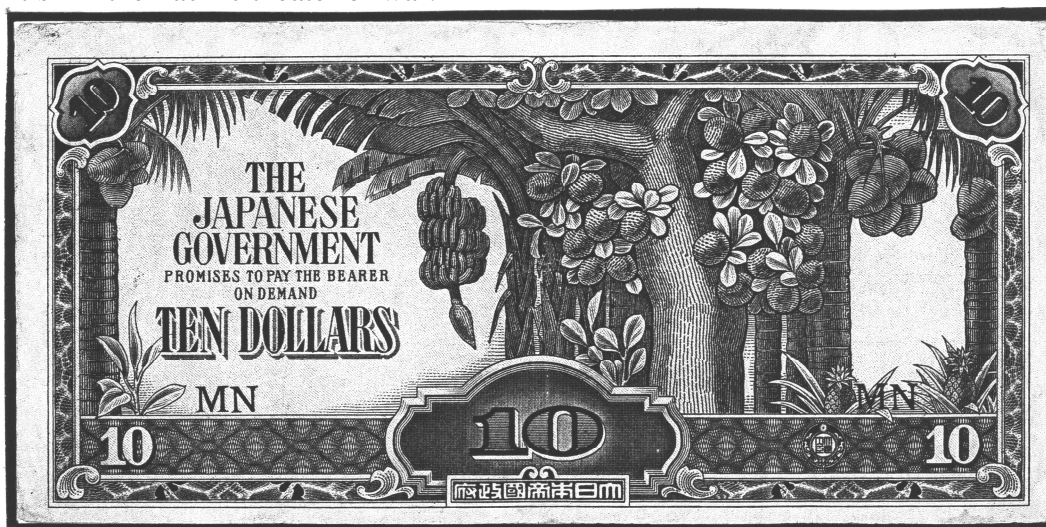
Toward the end of World War II, in an effort to hasten the downfall of the Empire, the Allies commenced dropping airborne propaganda notes over Japanese occupied territory in widely separated geographic locations.

The first of these was an airdrop over Singapore and the Malayan States during 1944 and 1945. The British selected the Japanese Government 10 dollar Malayan occupation note for their propaganda message. Printed on Psychological Warfare presses in Calcutta, India these notes, when ready, were delivered to various Royal Air Force bases in India and Burma. From there they were delivered over the target area by the 231st Wing of the RAF.

The purpose of the propaganda message was to undermine Malaysian confidence in the Japanese and their money. The obverse of the genuine Japanese occupation 10 dollar note was altered by adding a diagonal stripe to the photogravure facsimile which read in Malaysian *Wang Jepun Akan Mati Bersama Jepun* (Japan and its Japanese Money will soon disappear). The reverse of the facsimile contains three columns of text, in Malay, Arabic and Chinese. The translated text reads:

“Japanese notes are no longer being used in Burma. The only legal money now being used is British. When the British return to the Malay States, their currency will become valid again as before. Japanese notes will forever disappear together with the Japanese, but genuine British notes will be used forever”.

Each group of notes produced was coded on the reverse at the bottom of the center panel. The code “SMA/39” stands for “S” (South-East Asia Command, “MA” (Malaya) and “39” (the 39th production run). The highest numbered code known is SMA/102. This example represents the only use of bank note facsimiles by the British in the Pacific theater of war.





Desiring to undermine Malaysian confidence in Japanese occupation money, the British airdropped leaflets over Malaya in 1944 and 1945. These were bogus copies of the 10 dollar Malaysian occupation note which had been altered to deliver propaganda messages. The text, in three languages, informed the occupied population that Japanese money would soon disappear along with the Japanese. The prophesy became true. Although Malaya was still in Japanese hands when the war ended, British pound notes were soon circulating again.

A similar operation took place about the same time in Burma. In late 1944 American Psychological Warfare Units wished to inform the remote Kachin hill people that the Japanese money in their hands was worthless. To do this they selected the Japanese Government occupation of Burma 5 rupee note as their propaganda vehicle. The obverse of the note created was a good reproduction of the original Japanese Government one. The back of the note was filled with anti-Japanese propaganda. The reverse of the 5 rupee contains a box to the left which reads:

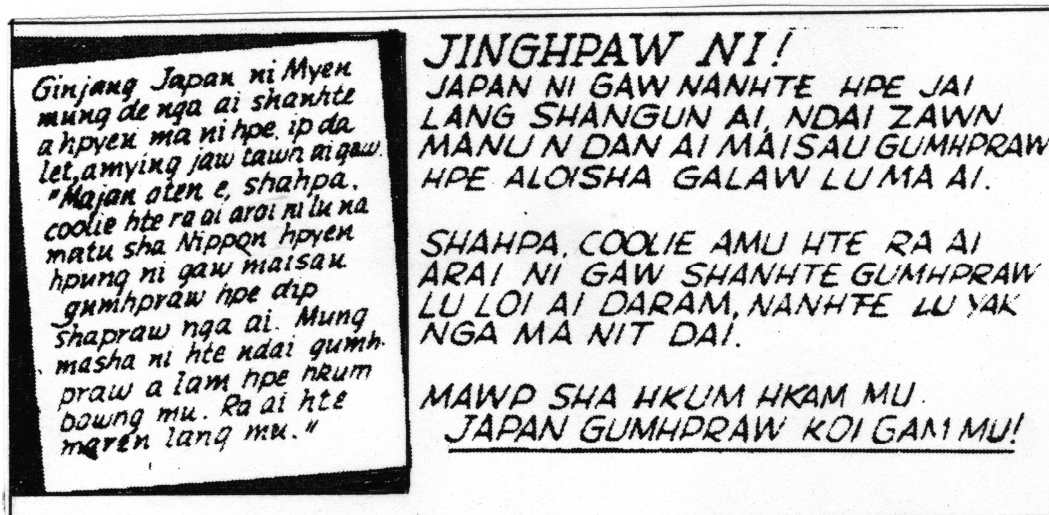
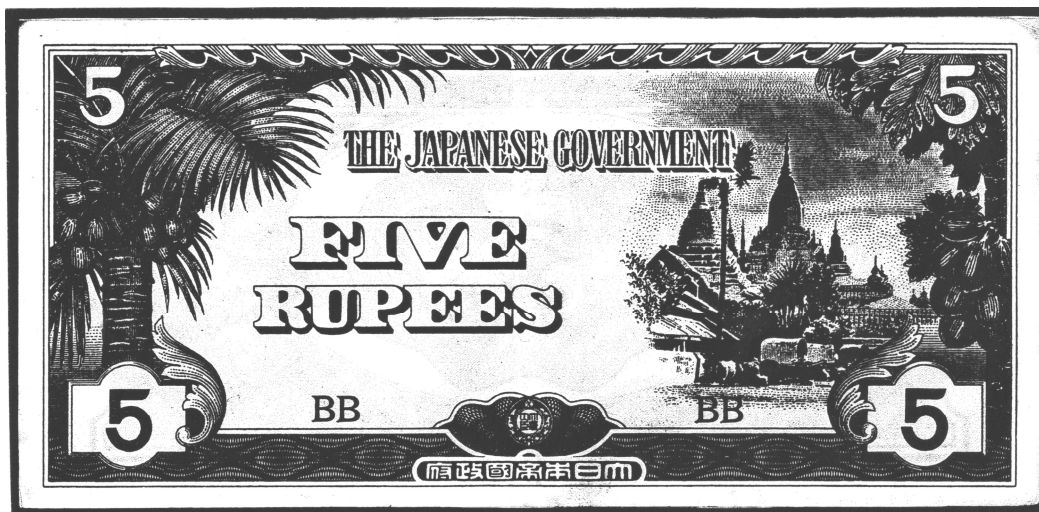
“The Japanese Military Government commanded their troops in Burma to keep secret about the following directive: ‘The Military Government is issuing these notes for your (Japanese troop) use in Burma. Spend as much as you need for food and other things, but do not tell the people about the true value of these notes’.”

Under the heading *Jinghpaw Ni!* (Kachin!), at right, the text reads:

“The Japanese are making these worthless notes for your use. It is easy to get these notes, but very hard to buy food and other necessities with them. Avoid these notes or you will be cheated”.

The notes were delivered to the Kachins by planes from U.S. Air bases in Burma and China.

Herbert Friedman in his article *Propaganda Currency of the Far East* tells of the difficulty he had when originally attempting to obtain a translation of the supposedly Burmese text. Requests for assistance in translation were addressed to U.S. and Burmese authorities and to the United Nations without success. After consulting with the Burmese Consul in New York, Friedman learned the problem was that the note was written in Kachin, not Burmese, as everyone had assumed. There was no one at the embassy who spoke the language, however. Further research with the former OSS and various missionary societies proved fruitless. Finally the determined Friedman hit upon a copy of a Kachin-English dictionary in the New York City Library and with the aid of the Burmese Baptist Convention was finally able to translate the note's text. This numismatic mystery took the dedicated author the best part of a year to solve!



Toward the end of war in the Pacific theater, United States psychological warfare units desired to inform the remote Kachin hill people of Burma that their Japanese money was worthless. To do this they created bogus Japanese Government 5 rupee notes with various propaganda messages on the reverse. These were then airdropped to the Kachins from Allied bases in Burma and China.

As the war in the Pacific wore on and American bombers were able to reach Japan, the United States was soon directing its propaganda at the Japanese homeland. Four different replicas of the Japanese 10 yen note then in circulation were produced. All have the same block and serial number - block 1124, serial number 450941. These notes were extremely well made and when falling face up on the ground appeared quite genuine. The bills were eagerly picked up by the Japanese, who must have thought it was their lucky day. It was not until the finder turned them over, however, did he realize that he had not found real money but a piece of propaganda instead. The propaganda messages were directed at the civilian population and concerned such subjects as the cost of food, taxes and the value of the yen.

The four notes differed only in the message on the reverse. They are known by their code numbers found in the lower right corner - number 2009, 2016, 2017 or 2034. These notes, the brainchild of the Military Intelligence Service in Hawaii, were airdropped over Japan in large quantities, hence it is still possible to encounter specimens today. The messages they contain are worth repeating as they give us a good insight into how we attempted to undermine Japanese morale.

2009: "Use this money for your yearly contribution. The military clique is squandering your taxes in a most wasteful manner. They are spending ¥5000 per person for this war. If the war is prolonged, even for a day, the military clique will waste even more of your money."

2016: Workers! Up until now you have been earning a good deal, but what does this amount to? The purchasing power of this ¥10 note has greatly diminished. You are using most of your strength to produce weapons. You are 'military' men in production, but can you buy the rice and beer that soldiers can? Are you able to obtain the special allotments of rations that soldiers and their families get?

2017: "To the Japanese people! To what use can money and bonds in the bank be put? Buy now the things you need or will need in the future because supplies are running short. Many shops are closed because of the bombings, others are open for a short time only. Buy food, clothing and daily necessities now. Money cannot stave off hunger and savings bonds cannot comfort a crying baby. If you are wise, you will not save your money but will buy goods instead. Now is the time to spend your money".

2034: "Before Showa five, (the fifth year of the Showa dynasty = 1911) ¥ 10 would buy 20 kilograms of quality rice, or material to clothe eight people, or four packages of charcoal weighing 50 kilos. After the war began in Showa twelve (1938) ¥ 10 could buy only 20 kilograms of inferior rice, material for five persons, or 2 ½ packages of charcoal. After hopelessly fighting the Allies for three years you can now only buy 1 ½ kilos of rice on the black market, a little charcoal if available, and no clothes at all for your ¥ 10".

In these messages the idea was to encourage the civilian population to hoard, to incite rivalry between civilian and military factions, to create discontent with taxes paid to support the war and to provide a yardstick with which the average Japanese could calculate the loss of purchasing power.



NO 2009

五千円

この金で年貢を納めよ。
軍閥は諸君の納めた税金
を浪費して居る。

軍閥は此の戦争に諸君、一
人に對して五千円の大金
を費して居る。
戦争が一日でも長く続けば
續く程、多く軍閥は諸君の
金を浪費するのである。

日本人諸君！

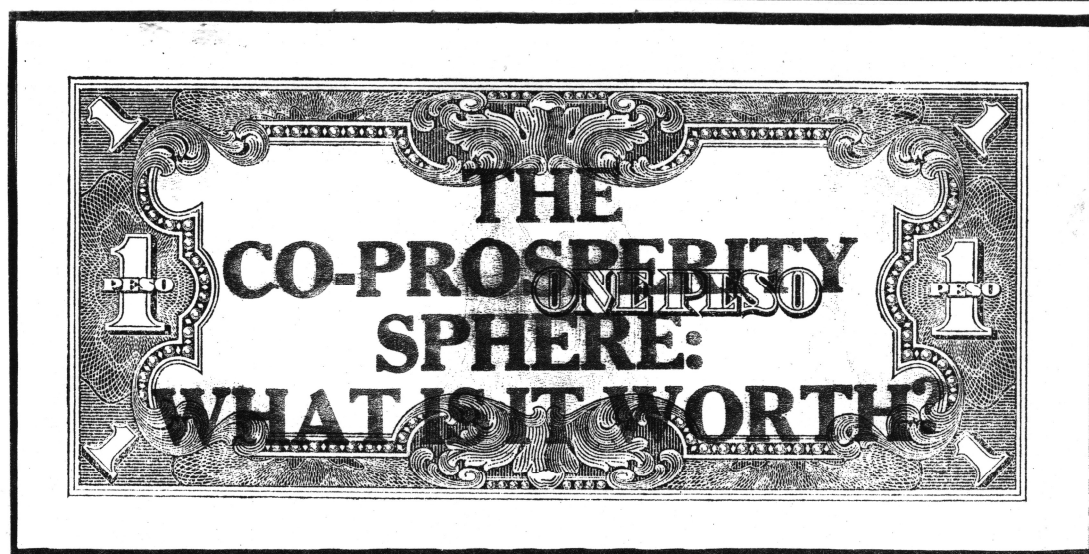
銀行や債券に入れた金は何の役に立
ちますか。今日の必需品又は將來使用
する様な物は今の中に買つて置きな
さい。残品は少くなりました。

空爆の爲、多くの店は閉ぢ或いは短時
間しか開けられていない様になります。
この困難なる時期を凌げる様食物
着物、日用品等を買ひ給へ。お金は飢を
癒やしたり、着物としては使用出来ま
せん。債券で泣く幼兒をなだめる事は
出来ません。賢者であれば、今金を貯め
ず、品物を買ふでせう。今はお金の時代
ではありません。物の時代です。

NO 2017

During World War II American planes commenced dropping propaganda leaflets on the Japanese homeland once they came within bombing range. Many leaflets took the form of currently circulating 10 yen bank notes. Each authentic looking note, when picked up, revealed a message on its back intended to undermine the morale of the civilian population. All notes in this series have the same serial and block number. The four different propaganda messages each bear a code number on the reverse. Shown here are numbers 2009 and 2017.

The last Pacific area in which such anti-Japanese propaganda on paper money was used, was in the Philippines. In this case genuine Japanese Government peso notes for the Philippine occupation were utilized. Shortly after Manila was retaken in 1944 the Japanese Treasury depository, located in the Wilson Building on Juan Luna Street, was captured. As a major supply depot, this office supplied currency to all Japanese occupied areas in the Philippine Islands as well as to the Netherlands East Indies, Malaya, Burma and the occupied Pacific Islands which the Japanese called Oceania. The bulk of the notes in the depository were destroyed but some were saved for propaganda purposes. Added to these were peso notes taken in Leyte when the town of Tacloban was overrun.



After McArthur returned to the Philippines and began his drive up the island chain to retake Manila, a large quantity of Japanese Government occupation money, which was still spendable, was captured. "Liberated" 1, 5 and 10 peso notes of the Rizal monument type were overprinted by the Psychological Warfare Branch with the question THE COPROSPERITY SPHERE: WHAT IS IT WORTH? in an effort to humiliate the Japanese in the eyes of the Filipinos. The overprinted notes were then airdropped over islands still in Japanese hands.

The letterpress printed message on the captured notes was a rhetorical one: "THE CO-PROSPERITY SPHERE; WHAT IS IT WORTH?" This referred, of course, to the Japanese propaganda campaign in which occupied peoples were given to believe that they were better off united under Japanese rule than of the British, French and

Dutch colonials. In addition to the 'Asia is for Asians' theme, the Co-Prosperity Sphere carried various economic connotations as well.



In 1945, after the American invasion of the Philippines, the Japanese realized they were rapidly losing prestige among the Filipino population. To make the Co-prosperity theme more appealing, a new issue of occupation money was authorized under the auspices of the "Republika Philipinas". Tugalog, the native Filipino language, was used instead of English when printing the notes. It was a case of too little, too late, as the war ended before the new currency could be put into circulation.

The overprints were the brainchild of the Psychological Warfare Branch of General McArthur's Headquarters. Bank notes utilized for this purpose were the 1, 5 and 10 peso notes of the second issue of Philippine occupation money, known as the Rizal Monument type. The overprinted notes were then dropped by the Fifth Air Force over central Luzon and the remaining islands still under Japanese control.

Three different type styles were used when printing the 'Co-Prosperity' notes. Since the overprinting was hastily done to achieve the maximum impact, it is reasonable to assume that the work was undertaken by more than one printing firm or army unit. This adds to the confusion when trying to tell genuine from fake overprints. It is said that few notes were actually overprinted and distributed since, upon hearing of the operation, General McArthur vetoed it, being fearful that the notes would be passed as real currency. This logic is questionable but, for whatever reason, few notes were overprinted in this way.

There is no doubt that immediately after the war some entrepreneurs, in order to satisfy the demand of souvenir hunters, took it upon themselves to replicate the

“Co-Prosperity Sphere: What is it Worth” overprint. Many of these were done by applying a hand-stamp to the back of the note. These can easily be discerned from the genuine overprint as the ink is thicker, is redder in color and does not penetrate into the paper as the letter press ink does.

After American troops landed in the Philippines the Filipinos became increasingly reluctant to accept the Japanese Government ‘Rizal’ notes. To counter this the Japanese decided to issue a new currency, which they hoped would be more acceptable. This currency was printed in Tagalog rather than English, and issued in the name of the “Bangko Sentral ng Philipinas” (Central Bank of the Philippines) under the authority of the “Republika ng Phiipinas”. This effort came too late. By the time the notes could be prepared the war was over. The only note which had been finished was a 100 piso bill which bore the portrait of Jose Rizal. The note never found its way into general circulation.

The Chinese Cause Their Captors to ‘Lose Face’

Desirous of expanding their influence into Asia proper, the Japanese, in July 1937, initiated full-scale war with the ill prepared Chinese. To do this they staged an “incident” at the Marco Polo Bridge outside Peking, provoking Chinese troops to fire upon the Japanese, thereby justifying the subsequent invasion and occupation of North China. Japan’s North China Expeditionary Army quickly overran the northern provinces. A puppet government, known as the Provisional Government of North China, was then set up to administer the area. The newly created Federal Reserve Bank of China was its financial arm.

The bank’s notes initially were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Peking. These well-executed notes are fine examples of the engravers’ art. They depict many well-known Chinese places including the Forbidden City, the Marco Polo Bridge, Great Wall of China and the Summer Palace. By using so many images associated with Chinese culture, the Japanese no doubt were currying favor with their newly “liberated” subjects.

In one case the Chinese had the last laugh, albeit at a terrible price. Inasmuch as the 1938 series of notes was produced using the facilities of the former Bureau of Engraving and Printing, it was only natural that the actual work performed on the notes be executed by Chinese engravers already employed there. One such patriotic Chinese, whose name has been lost to posterity, took it upon himself to alter the portrait of Confucius which appeared on the Federal Reserve Bank of China 1 yuan note. Traditionally Confucius was always shown with his hands clasped in prayer. On this note, however, the engraver re-worked the portrait to show the hands making an indecent gesture. Unbelievably, the note found its way into circulation in large numbers, much to the delight of the Chinese. When the Japanese caught on they were furious at the loss of face over the incident. They quickly rounded up the offending patriot and executed him. This note is a perfect example of how psychological propaganda can be successfully applied in warfare.

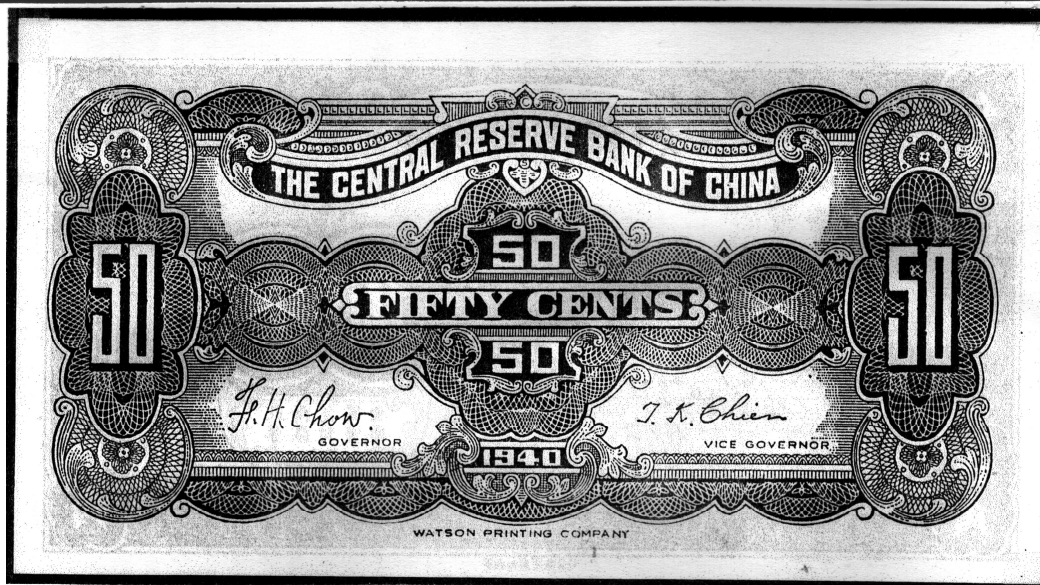
Several years later the Central Reserve Bank of China was set up as the puppet bank for the newly created Reformed Government of the Republic of China, headquartered in Nanking. This collaborationist government was the Japanese answer to a sovereign Chinese state. The bank was formed to serve the needs of central and south China

after the Nationalist Government moved the Central Bank of China main office from Shanghai to Chungking just one step ahead of the Japanese advance.

In an effort to gain public acceptance for the CRB notes, the Japanese placed an effigy of Sun Yat Sen, the founder of the Chinese republic, on the obverse and his mausoleum on the reverse. These are the only two designs to be found on this series. At first the notes met with a distinct lack of enthusiasm. Chinese banks, the railroads and the general public all refused to accept them. Ultimately the Nanking puppet government passed a law stating that anyone refusing to use the CRB currency would be liable to imprisonment.



After invading North China in 1937 the Japanese puppet government set up the Federal Reserve Bank of China as its financial arm. The 1938 series of notes featured Confucius hurling an insult at the Japanese by using an indecent gesture with his hands. Confucius was traditionally shown with his hands clasped in prayer, as seen at right.



In an effort to boost sagging morale, patriotic Chinese engravers employed by the Watson Printing Company, a Japanese contract printer, secreted hidden messages on several Central Reserve Bank of China notes. A strong glass will reveal several Chinese characters among the hillside shrubbery on the obverse and the cryptic message “CGWRS”, standing for Central Government Will Return Soon, on the reverse of this note.

Central Reserve Bank of China notes are famous for their clandestine propaganda messages. In an effort to boost morale during the worst of times, Chinese engravers working for the Japanese cut hidden messages into the engraving plates. This was done at the risk of their lives. The 10 yuan note of 1940 has a series of bisected turtles as part of the border design. These animals were held as loathsome by the Chinese - an obvious reference to their contempt for the Japanese oppressors. In another example the Chinese engraver secreted a propaganda message into the obverse and reverse plates used in printing the 50 cent note dated 1940. With the aid of a magnifying glass it is not too difficult to find a number of Chinese characters hidden in the bushes and trees surrounding the mausoleum and among the scroll-work and borders on the back. Similar secret marks have been found on the 5 cent note of the same series. When arranged in the proper order, the letters "C", "G", "W", "R" and "S" hidden on the reverse spell out the message "Central Government Will Return Soon". Circulation of massive amounts of this currency under the very noses of their Japanese oppressors, without discovery, must have boosted morale considerably among the suffering peasants. One can only hope that those responsible escaped detection and punishment by the Japanese.

The most well known of these hidden messages appears on the 200 yuan note dated 1944. Four letters appear on this note, two on the obverse and two on the reverse. These letters are well hidden amongst the intricate lathe work of the engraving. When properly arranged the letters "U", "S", "A" and "C" secreted there supposedly stand for the morale boosting phrase "United States Army (is) Coming!"

Vietnamese War Propaganda Notes

As soon as World War II came to an end, and long before the United States entered the war in Viet Nam, France attempted to reestablish control over its former Southeast Asian colonies. From 1946 onwards the French army was actively engaged in suppressing the Vietminh communist factions in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia in an effort to save French Indochina.



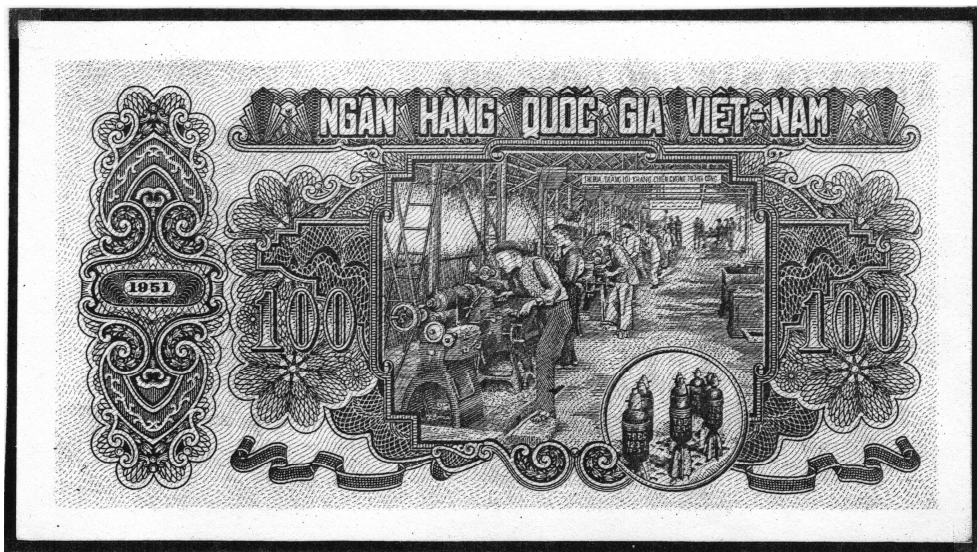


The French propagandized this North Vietnamese 50 dong note by creating a facsimile in which the image of Ho Chi Minh was dropped from the front of the note. A crude picture of a peasant with a North Vietnamese bank note in his hand was substituted instead. The propaganda message left no doubt as to what he should do with it.

At first the army had little trouble in reestablishing control. The Japanese puppet Ho Chi Minh was driven out of Hanoi and into hiding in the countryside. By 1949 the French had created a nominally independent government under the playboy Bao Dai; however all real power remained in French hands. Trouble began when the Vietminh challenged French authority and slowly began to win increased influence over the countryside. At this point the French appealed to the United States for assistance. President Truman recognized Bao Dai's government in 1950 and agreed to provide military and economic aid to it. Despite this support over the next several years, things went badly for the French anyway. By late 1953 the communist forces had gained sufficient strength to face the French army in the field. The Vietminh defeated the French at Dien Bien Phu after a protracted siege; whereupon the French withdrew their forces and abandoned Indochina. Not long afterwards the country was divided into North and South Viet Nam.

By 1951 Vietminh currency had made the transition from the crudely printed notes of 1946-1949 to a more suitable currency. The *Viet Nam Dan Chui Cong Hoa* (Democratic Republic of Viet Nam) series of notes were well printed and bore a portrait of Ho Chi Minh on the obverse together with various militaristic and propaganda scenes on the reverse. The 50 dong reverse shows soldiers assisting with the rice harvest, the 100 dong note a crude grenade making factory, the 200 dong depicts soldiers practicing the bayonet thrust, while the 1000 dong note depicts anti-aircraft gunners in action.

It was the 50 dong note of this series that the French chose for the only propaganda message of the war to appear on a bank note facsimile. The French prepared this note in an attempt to ridicule and undermine the new currency. The reverse showing the rice harvest was retained and a crude portrait of a Vietnamese was substituted in lieu of Ho's portrait on the obverse. The message *Cong Dung Duy Nhut Cua Giay Bac Ho Chi Minh* reads: "Ho Chi Minh's money is worthless, it has no international value". A suggested use for the Ho Chi Minh currency is graphically shown as the peasant holds one of these notes in his hand, leaving no doubt as to what the French thought of the money.



Democratic Republic of Viet Nam notes bore a portrait of Ho Chi Minh on the obverse together with various militaristic and propaganda scenes such as an underground armaments factory, infantry practicing the bayonet thrust and anti-aircraft weaponry.

In 1965 the United States became directly involved in the continuing conflict. From this point on, the use of bank notes for various propaganda purposes increased. One such application was the creation of a safe conduct pass for civilians. This was the product of the Army Psychological Warfare Branch. They printed facsimile copies of the South Vietnamese 5 dong note with a “genuine” obverse and an altered reverse. The river scene on the reverse was altered to show a woman standing in a boat waving while holding a baby in her arms. The text was directed to those civilians who had gone over to the Viet Cong side. (The term “Viet Cong” was an American one derived from the Vietnamese *Viet Nam Cong San*, which meant “Vietnamese communist”). The message directed all South Vietnamese military and administrative agencies to cooperate fully in assisting the bearer of the note to locate the nearest government agency where he could be reunited with his family. These notes were printed in the Philippines and signed by Major-General Nguyen Khanh.

In another example, the psychological warfare units produced a completely bogus bill, which had been made to resemble a real North Vietnamese note. This note, for which there was no genuine counterpart, was denominated 50 dong and contained designs showing an industrial worker, farmer and woman with two children on the obverse. The propaganda message on the reverse urged the bearer to “Participate in the Three Readies”. These were enumerated on the back as (1) be ready to call off the Viet Cong aggression in South Viet Nam, (2) be ready to receive more rice once the Viet Cong stop trading it to Red China, and (3) to be ready to resist all hardships that the Viet Cong impose upon you in support of their aggression in the South.

Perhaps the most effective use of propaganda paper money to appear during the war came about with the creation of the “double use” facsimile notes. Produced by the U.S. army to be dropped over North Vietnam, they were excellent color copies of North Vietnamese 1958 issue dong notes, which contained a major addition. Each was a faithful and convincing copy of an actual North Vietnamese 1, 2, or 5 dong note produced on both sides in full color. The notes were printed, however, with an additional blank strip of paper remaining on the side of the note upon which a propaganda message could be printed.

The propaganda on the 1 dong note featuring a monument reads:

“Money is worth less and less. As the war goes on there will be less and less to buy. Prices will go higher and higher. Your savings will become worthless paper”. The other side of the strip reads: “Beware of another money reform. You may lose all your wealth, the fruit of your sweat and tears”. The 2 dong strip note carries the same message as the 1 dong note. On the 5 dong facsimile showing Ho and heavy industrial equipment, the message reads: “Watch out for another currency reform. The Party destroys the value of your money in a hopeless war. War destroys your homeland, etc.”.



The “double use” facsimiles of North Vietnamese notes, produced by the U.S. Army, were convincing two-sided color copies of actual currency in circulation. The notes were printed with an additional blank strip of paper attached, upon which a propaganda message was printed. When the propaganda strip was cut off, the bearer was left with a passable counterfeit note in his hands, thereby doubling the propaganda’s effectiveness.

The various messages were coded on the propaganda strip; code 4543 being assigned to the 1 dong, 4541 to the 2 dong, etcetera. The purpose of the strip was two-fold. First it contained the propaganda message, and secondly it could be readily cut off leaving the bearer with a passable counterfeit note in his hands. The temptation to spend it must have been great. How many of these notes were passed off as real currency, once the strip had been removed, will never be known. There can be no doubt that many were spent in this way, as those with the propaganda strip still attached are harder to find today than those without.

Later, in 1963, the Viet Cong issued their own notes under the heading *Uy Ban Trung Uong* (National Government Committee). The *Uy Ban Trung Uong* functioned as the Central Committee of the Communist Party with responsibilities similar to our Cabinet. These notes are very communistic in theme with emphasis on military action. The 10 dong note of the series depicts a scene in which the Viet Cong have ambushed a column of armored vehicles. Several American G.I.s are shown with their hands held high in the act of surrender. The 50 dong note is even more graphic. It's obverse shows a convoy of camouflaged trucks making their way down the Ho Chi Minh Trail, while the reverse depicts several Viet Cong, including a female soldier in the act of bringing down several American helicopters with a rifle! Whether this sort of exaggeration was believed by the masses or not is questionable; nevertheless it held great propaganda value for the enemy.



Viet Cong bank notes emphasized a different kind of propaganda, this time directed at the Americans. The 50 dong shown here contains a vignette of supplies moving down the Ho Chi Minh Trail together with one in which a female soldier shoots down an assault helicopter with a rifle!

To be continued

Plan ahead, please!

Roger deWardt Lane, Hollywood, Florida

This story ended last week when a numismatic book sold on e-Bay¹. ILLUSTRATED CATALOG OF CHINESE COINS, GOLD SILVER, NICKEL & ALUMINUM BY E. KANN, 50 looks, 4 different bids with a final bid of \$86.00

The introduction is by Russell Rulau and on a fly leaf page the following acknowledgement "The publisher would like to take this moment of the reader's time to acknowledge with thanks the very kind cooperation of Mrs. Margaret Kann of Hollywood, Mr. Hans M.F. Schulman of New York and Mr. M. Oka of Tokyo for his tremendously exacting and detailed work in bringing the valuations section of this book up-to-date."

The story starts about twenty-five years ago, on a visit to a small local flea market one Sunday morning. On my then usual trip looking for coins and collectables, I spied on the trunk of an automobile, a coin book well known to me, as I had a copy. It was the 1966 reprint by Mint Publications of KANN. Picking up the book and quietly asking "How much do you want for this?" I made the purchase for two dollars. It was in nice condition. Next I asked the dealer, who I had known from numerous visits to the flea market, "Where did you get this?" His reply went something like this. "Couple of years ago I purchased about three or four boxes of book. They were all book on coins. I immediately resold them at the market. The one you have, I thought was interesting, so I set it aside and took it home to look through." "This morning I was going through my garage and saw the old book, so I brought it with me to get rid of it."

Interesting story so far. Walking away with my new found numismatic book, even though it was a duplicate, I casually thumbed through it. To my surprise was a small slip of paper – an acknowledgement of a purchase from a Shangri dealer of several Chinese coins. Of keen interest to me was the addressee - Landon Haynes, Miami, Florida.

I knew the individual from my early collecting days. About 30 years ago, I wished to join, in addition to my local coin clubs and the ANA, the Royal Numismatic Society, London England. So, I wrote them, asking how to become a member of the Society. Their response indicated that I needed a sponsor. They included the names of their only two members in Florida. One of which, was Landon Haynes. After a phone call, I found out he was an Editor at the Miami Herald and would like to meet me. At the time I was an executive of a well know resort hotel, so I invited him to join me for lunch at our Diplomat Country Club. At the end of a very enjoyable luncheon visit of probably over two hours, he agreed to endorse my membership in both the RNS and the American Numismatic Society. I am very proud to these memberships.

So, how did his numismatic library end up in the flea market? (*This is the moral of this story*). I have just done an Internet search for Landon's social security records and find he was born in 1910 and died in Miami, in 1977. Fellow literary numismatists will have to guess at the missing part of the story.

Please...properly dispose of your library by auction, private sale or by gift to a numismatic library during your lifetime. Do not leave it to others for later. I know from personal experience, on how painful it is to part with your library², for they represent more hours of enjoyment than you probable spent with your children. The books are like children them selves.

¹ This catalogue sold on the same auction - EDUARD KANN COLLECTION OF COINS OF CHINA WITH PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT, THE HANS SCHULMAN AUCTION CATALOG OF THE EDUARD KANN COLLECTION OF COINS OF CHINA AND JAPANESE COINS. ALSO CONTAINS THE H. D. GIBBS COLLECTION, PART V OF ODD AND CURIOUS MONEY 173pp, 2458 LOTS, JUNE 18-20, 1971, Final bid \$89.00 with two of the same bidders seeking it.

² Rogers in the process of disposing of his numismatic library, a collection of over thousand volumes. First by donating a few unique book to the ANS and the rest on e-Bay or at the local coin club meetings.

BOOK NEWS AND REVIEWS

CAPPADOCIA Church Tokens of the Late 19th Century. (No. 4 Monographs of the Hellenic Numismatic Society), by George A. Georgiopolou. 91 pp. Athens 2004. Greek text with complete English language translation by Marion A. Tzamali. 6¼ x 9¼ inches, stiff card covers. Profusely illustrated of metal tokens, churches and maps. ISBN 96085522-9X, bound in stiff card covers. Price upon application Tel:/Fax +30 21 06721542. (from the USA dial 011 ahead of the country code 30).

This excellent monograph concerns the large hoard of about 20,000 church tin, “coins”, tokens from Cappadocia, which in the 1990s came into the possession of a dealer in Istanbul. Many, mostly from the church of Saint Gregory the Theologian in Kelveri, soon arrived in Athens, Paris and New York.

It took the author ten years of painstaking research to trace specimens. Apart from the Kelveri types, there are tokens from twelve other villages in the region.

The author includes important information about the Ottoman government’s approval of paper tokens and countermarked copper coins which had been demonetized during the bankruptcy period of the empire.

Some members will recall the short article on the 20 and 10 para tokens from Kelveri in the bulletin (NIB #18, 1993). Others, as well as ANA and ANS members, who were able to purchase specimens from dealers; Scott Semans, Van Arsdale, Guevrekian in the early 1990s will be familiar with them.

This definitive monograph on the subject is an important contribution to Ottoman numismatics unlikely to be improved upon. This is an essential reference work.

Kenneth M. MacKenzie

Florin

More than a hundred years before Decimalization Day, there were reformers in Great Britain militating for what they saw as an antiquated and cumbersome system of money reckoning to be replaced by something more modern and better—adapted to the needs of commerce. While they succeeded in introducing a coin worth one tenth of a pound, which was simply two shillings, their contemplated hundredths (2.4d) and thousandths (0.96 farthing) proved abortive. To make matters worse, *the* new piece was frequently confused with the decidedly non-decimal half-crown (2/6) particularly when struck (as my 1890 specimen was) without any mark of value. According to the invariable habit of the British, the decimal coin soon acquired a semiofficial name: from its similarity to the gulden of the Netherlands in size and value the two shilling piece became known by the style the Dutch money wore in English speaking countries, that of “florin”. (Submitted by Christopher D. Carson)

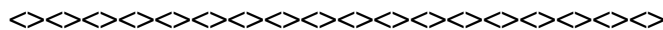
UNPUBLISHED OVERDATE THE FIRST IN A SERIES

One of the good things Numismatics International has contributed to coin collectors is the discovery of dates and types of coins that were previously unknown. THE STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS resulted in part from early efforts of NI members to correct errors and fill gaps in existing catalogs. We turn our attention now to over dates, and we will welcome your contributions in this area.

Some catalogs of Peruvian gold coinage indicate one over date in the 50 Soles series, a 1964 over 3. There is at least one more. I have recently purchased a 1962, 6 over 5. The over date is very obvious. The top bar of the 5 protrudes clearly at both the front and rear of the 6.

UNPUBLISHED OVERDATE

Among the Russian roubles of Czar Alexander I over dates were frequent. Records show an 1822 over 1. We also are aware of an 1822 over 11. Within the loop of each 2, the original 1 clearly remains, being particularly large and strong within the loop of the final 2. In addition the base of the original 1 appears below the base of the first 2. In the case of the second 2, the effect of the original number is clearest in the way it caused a thickening around the middle of the 2.



Beginning of Islamic Coinage

The beginning of a new, purely Islamic coinage is believed to have originated in the caliphate of Adb-al-Malik. The stimulus to this coinage reform was believed to be based upon the anti-Moslem policy of the Byzantine emperor, Justin II. The story is that Byzantium, which derived its stock of papyrus from Egypt, now in Arab hands, was displeased to discover that the official headings guaranteeing the papyrus included phrases in Arabic of religious character, such as there was no God but Allah. To the Byzantine threat to retaliate by placing legends abusive of Muhammad on their gold solidi, which was in wide circulation in Egypt, the caliph replied by issuing his own gold dinars with Islamic legends.

AN AFGHAN PUL STORY

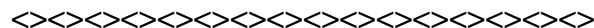
Mike Davis, Piqua, Ohio NI#2392

From the August 1946 issue of "HOBBIES" magazine comes an article by Frank C. Ross about a folk-lore story concerning the pul coin of Afghanistan. The story is about an old custom began several hundred years ago by a "wise and beneficent ruler" who enacted a law that every restaurant or eating place must accept from a poor or needy customer, one pul in payment for the meal, regardless of the cost of the meal. A pul was an insignificant copper coin valued at one-fortieth of the standard silver coin. This was supposedly to abolish hunger in the country.

According to the article (which did not name a source for the story) the Afghan government began minting puli again in 1861 after a long absence of the coin. This got people to resurrect the old law, which was never revoked, and was taken advantage of by many people. This would be like paying a penny for a five-dollar meal. The owners of the eating places began to lose money, of course, and took it upon themselves to hoard and destroy any pul coin they could find.

Mr. Ross stated that this is the reason for the rarity of the 1861 Afghan pul, but I could not find where a pul was minted in Afghanistan that year. It is possible that the story of the law originated elsewhere such as Khoqand-Russian Turkistan that minted a pul coin dated 1861 (C#112) or Khiva-Russian Turkistan that minted a pul (falus) series from 1856 to 1863(Y#1), both types not actually rare. It is also possible that the coin mentioned was a local issue rather than one authorized by the Afghan government, and not documented in the standard references.

Another theory is that Mr. Ross received some information in error and is referring to the Afghan 1891 paisa (K#800), which would have been called a pul by the local people, and is relatively scarce, or the Afghan pul of 1930 (K#922) and is considered rare. At any rate looking at the values of pul and folis coins earlier than 1860, they do seem to be higher than usual relative to the silver rupees of the same period.



With the fall of Constantinople in 1204, the empire split up into a number of small states such as the so-called 'empires' of Nicaea, Thessalonica and Trebizond. The new line of "Latin" emperors who established themselves at Constantinople did not continue the imperial series of coins, the currency needs being met by other coinages, principally that of Venice.

First Coins of Malta

In 1523, when the Knights of St. John were expelled from Rhodes, Emperor Charles V granted possession of Malta to the Knights of St. John. He also, at a later time, granted the right of coinage. The earliest coinage is believed to be those of grand master, Peter del Ponte (1534-1535). The first coinage was in the form of gold zucchini, using the types of the Venetian gold zecchino which shows St. John presenting a banner to the kneeling grand master on the obverse, and a figure of Christ on the reverse. Starting from the time of John de Homedes (1536-1535), in addition to the gold zecchion, there was coinage in silver, the basic denomination being the taro. There were multiple denomination coins up to 6 tari, and some divisionary pieces. The copper coins were the grano, its half of 3 piccioli, and the picciolo.



MEMBER NOTICE PAGE

Wanted the following auction Catalogues Butterfields 26/4/87, Colonial Coins 4/5/76, 3/6/78 Frenches 20/4/74 Texas Numismatic Assn sale 10/4/70, Downie Lepczyk sale 78, Jess Peters 21/5/66, 12/3/68, 29/6/7, Ponterio Sales 6, 31, 42, 48, 56 & 105, Christensen sale 41, also wanted any Richard Long or Freeman Craig cats also, I will exchange 1 for 1 or will buy .I have lots of spares. Contact r.desouches@btopenworld.com

Wanted also the following non us catalogues Wm Alsenoy sales 5, 15 & 19, Assoc Num Espanola 10 sales between 1973 & 1992, Christies Amsterdam 9/12/82 & 27/11/87, Coin Investment sales 8 & 10, De Mey sale 2, Downies 8/8/88, Stanley Gibbons 2/3/72, Glendinnings 28/1/98, Geoff Gray (Australia) Sale 32, RIIB Mynthandel 10/11/84, 25/11/95 De Nederlandse Muntenverling 13/5/86, 4/10/94, 27/4/95, Sothebys 19/4/77 Van Dussen 24/2/86, 1/12/86, 13/4/89, Wersterhof sales 1, 5, & 6. will exchange 1 for 1 as I have lots of spares Contact r.desouches@btopenworld.com.

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Tom Galway, NI # 1135 has published a new 20 page coin list of many world wide coins, and many from Germany. Request a copy of his Gallery Numis list at P.O. Box 620421, Middleton, Wisc 53562-0421.